

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE****USER REGISTRY ADAPTER FRAMEWORK**

5           A method, computer program product, and data  
processing system, with which a unified security policy  
may be implemented using existing application components  
with disparate security mechanisms and user registries is  
disclosed. The present invention provides a generic  
10 application programming interface (API) that forms a  
framework for creating registry adapters. Registry  
adapters allow a policy director (an item of software for  
imposing a sitewide security policy) to operate with new  
or unfamiliar registry types by acting as a drop-in  
15 translator for converting generic registry-access  
commands into operations specific to the particular  
registry in question.

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